

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph on page 8 beginning on line 3 with the following amended paragraph.

In the preparation of said third polymeric material a catalyst is preferably provided for catalyzing the reaction of the first and second polymeric materials. Said catalyst is preferably a protic acid. Said acid preferably has an acid dissociation constant value of greater than 10^{-6} , more preferably greater than 10^{-4} and, especially, greater than 10^{-2} . A precursor formulation which includes said first and second polymeric materials suitably includes less than 5 wt%, preferably less than 2 wt%, more preferably less than 1 wt%, especially less than 0.5 wt% of a catalyst. In a preferred embodiment, said treatment fluid formulation has a pH in the range of 6 to 8 and is preferably neutral. Thus, the method may include a neutralization step after addition of said catalyst.